Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended) A method for identifying compounds which interact with the kinase domain of a modified receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) polypeptide, comprising the steps of:

(a) expressing in a host cell an isolated DNA sequence or variant thereof which encodes a modified RTK gene construct, wherein said RTK gene construct contains an RTK kinase domain α helix D linked to RTK kinase domain α helix E by a truncated RTK kinase insert domain (KID), said host cell capable of producing a modified RTK polypeptide that retains kinase activity and ~~is~~ which forms crystals suitable for x-ray crystallography; ~~and~~

(b) exposing said modified RTK polypeptide to said compound; and

(c) evaluating the interaction between the ~~kinase domain of said~~ modified RTK polypeptide and said compound.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, which further comprises:

(d) conducting said x-ray crystallography on said modified RTK polypeptide.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said truncated kinase insert domain comprises a deletion of the highly charged residues from the KID.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said truncated kinase insert domain comprises a deletion of 50 residues from the KID.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said truncated kinase insert domain comprises a deletion of 60 residues from the KID.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said truncated kinase domain linking said helix D to said α helix E is of a sufficient length so as to allow said helices to maintain conformation associated with kinase structure.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said modified RTK polypeptide is a member of the platelet derived growth factor receptor (PDGFR) family.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said PDGFR member is selected from the group consisting of vascular endothelial growth factor receptor (VEGFR) VEGFR-1, VEGFR-2, PDGFR-α, PDGFR-β, stem cell growth factor receptor (c-kit), and colony stimulating factor-1 receptor (CSF-1R/c-fms).

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein said modified RTK polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of insulin receptor (IRK), fibroblast growth factor receptor-1 (FGFR-1) and VEGFR-2.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein said modified RTK polypeptide is VEGFR-2.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said modified RTK polypeptide comprises the VEGFR2Δ50 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5.

28. (new) A method for identifying compounds which interact with the kinase domain of a modified receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) polypeptide, comprising the steps of:

(a) expressing in a host cell an isolated DNA sequence or variant thereof which encodes a modified RTK gene construct, wherein said RTK gene construct contains an RTK kinase domain α helix D linked to RTK kinase domain α helix E by a truncated RTK kinase insert domain (KID), said host cell capable of producing a modified RTK polypeptide that retains kinase activity and which forms crystals suitable for x-ray crystallography, wherein the modified RTK polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of insulin receptor (IRK), fibroblast growth factor receptor-1 (FGFR-1) and vascular endothelial growth factor receptor-2 (VEGFR-2);

(b) exposing said modified RTK polypeptide to said compound; and

(c) evaluating the interaction between the modified RTK polypeptide and said compound.

29. (new) A method for identifying compounds which interact with the kinase domain of a modified vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGFR) polypeptide, comprising the steps of:

(a) expressing in a host cell an isolated DNA sequence or variant thereof which encodes a modified VEGFR gene construct, wherein said VEGFR gene construct contains a VEGFR kinase domain α helix D linked to VEGFR kinase domain α helix E by a truncated VEGFR kinase insert domain (KID), said host cell capable of producing a modified VEGFR polypeptide that retains kinase activity and which forms crystals suitable for x-ray crystallography;

(b) exposing said modified VEGFR polypeptide to said compound; and

(c) evaluating the interaction between the modified VEGFR polypeptide and said compound.